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FBI

I. PROJECT TITLE

Speech Recognition
Submitting Agency - FBI

II. COSTS

	FY 1983	FY 1984
(000's)	$200	$200

III. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

SUMMARY

The FBI seeks to automate the initial analytic processing of audio intercepts to automatically recognize, record and enhance the intelligibility of speech to increase the production of translators and transcription personnel by eliminating unintelligible or unnecessary review of collections. (C)

NEED

The FBI uses audio interception as a major means to accomplish its Foreign Counterintelligence mission. The volume of raw output has expanded and will continue to expand beyond our processing capability. It would greatly enhance our analytic production if some measures of automation could be employed to reduce the analytic load to manageable levels. (C)

WHAT WILL BE DEVELOPED

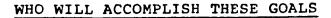Hardware will be developed to perform the following tasks:

1. Automatically distinguish speech from interfering sounds (such as music) so as to record or re-record only periods of speech.

2. Automatically make a soft background speaker intelligible in the presence of a loud foreground noise. (C)

The objective will be to develop small, low to moderate cost equipment which could be deployed at the collection site to automatically review collections. The system will generate tapes with improved information content. (C)

FBI review completed

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Classified and Extended by 859
Reason for Extension FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 (2)
Date of Review for Declassification August 19, 2001

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WHO WILL ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS

This project will be managed by the Technical Services Division, FBI. The design and implementation will be done by an external contractor using regular competitive procurement procedures. (C)

TIME PHASING

During FY 82, detailed system requirements will be developed in coordination with other interested government agencies, potential contractors and FBI field divisions. A request for proposals will be generated for solicitation in FY 83. Prototype hardware will be tested in late FY 83 or early FY 84. Modifications and enhancements on pre-production equipment will be obtained in FY 84. (C)

IV.   BENEFITS

This enhancement will increase the productive time of translators and transcription personnel, enabling them to produce an increased volume and quality of intercepted audio transcriptions. Their production and insights into subject's personalities and activities represent a major source of information upon which counterintelligence operations are based. Additionally, this technology would have broad utility with other Intelligence Community agencies. (C)

V.   PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS

Previous attempts within the Intelligence Community at actual speech content recognition have not been overly successful, and although rapid gains in the technology are occuring, this project does not seek this. It is only sought to differentiate speech from noise through pattern recognition in order to gain some automatation in the initial processing. We believe this can be achieved on an experimental basis at the cost shown. (C)

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